

For Immediate Release

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**PAUL D'AMATO: PHOTOGRAPHS OF MEN'S SOCIAL CLUBS**  
**ON VIEW AT THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY,**  
**COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO**

**SEPTEMBER 17 THROUGH NOVEMBER 2, 2002**

**CHICAGO, August 2002 -- Paul D'Amato's** (United States, born 1956) color photographs of men's social clubs will inaugurate a new series of exhibitions featuring regional photographers participating in The Museum of Contemporary Photography's Midwest Photographers Project. To find out more about the project please visit [www.mocp.org/mpp](http://www.mocp.org/mpp).

Recent photographs by D'Amato document the American communal institution of men's social clubs. The clubs D'Amato photographs are not typically those modeled on urban elitist institutions of the nineteenth-century, rather his subjects range from cribbage players in the Woodfords Club in Portland, Maine, to men gathered at the "L" Street Bath House in South Boston, to a weekly meeting at the American Legion in Malden, Massachusetts. The pictures portray elderly men engaged in activities that have been part of their lives since they were young—along with evidence that there are no young members to keep the clubs' traditions alive.

D'Amato received his BA from Reed College (1980) and his MFA from the Yale University School of Art (1985). In 1994 he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship and in 2002 he received a Pollock-Krasner Fellowship. D'Amato's work has been widely exhibited and is held in numerous collections such as The Museum of Modern Art and The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. He currently lives in Chicago and is an associate professor at Columbia College Chicago.

The opening reception is September 26, 2002 from 5 pm until 7 pm at The Museum of Contemporary Photography. D'Amato will give a gallery talk on October 15, 2002 at 6 pm. Both events are free and open to the public.

The exhibitions, presentations, and related programs of The Museum of Contemporary Photography are sponsored in part by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; the National Endowment for the Arts; the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs/Gallery 37; and American Airlines, the official airlines of The Museum of Contemporary Photography.

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The museum is free and open to the public weekdays from 10 am until 5 pm (Thursdays until 8 pm) and Saturdays from 12 until 5 pm. It is located at 600 S. Michigan Avenue at Harrison Street. Phone 312.663.5554 or visit [mocp.org](http://mocp.org) for additional information.